

# MISSOURI JUVENILE CRIME ANALYSIS

## INTRODUCTION

As a part of Missouri's Three-Year Plan for the expenditure of federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act funds, the Missouri Department of Public Safety and the Missouri Juvenile Justice Advisory Group reviewed and analyzed referrals to Missouri's juvenile courts during the period of 1999 to 2001. The data used in this analysis were reported by each of Missouri's forty-five juvenile courts to the Missouri Statewide Information System. This system is operated and maintained by the Missouri Department of Social Services and the Missouri Division of Youth Services as required by **219.016** Missouri Revised Statutes.

The information collected from the juvenile court is intended to present a picture of the nature and extent of youth referred to the State's juvenile court system. The following is a summary of the type of information collected:

- a) Demography (gender, race, age, etc.)
- b) Reason for referral (law violation, status offense, or child abuse/neglect)
- c) Source of referral (police, school, family, etc.)
- d) Types of pre-hearing placements (secure detention, shelter care, etc.)
- e) Length of pre-hearing placement
- f) Dispositions (out-of-home placements, probation, dismissal, informal adjustment, waiver/transfer, etc.)
- g) Type of out-of-home and in-home services received

For the purpose of presenting a review of our analysis, we have divided this section into three parts. Part I provides a look at the number of referrals to the juvenile court, what the referral is for, who is being referred, and who is making the referral. Part II describes the use of pre-hearing placements including type and length. Part III examines the dispositions, or decisions, that are made by the juvenile court for each referral.

All referrals have been grouped and examined by race, gender, age and type of referral. The following are definitions for each referral category:

**Violent Offenses** - Crimes against persons including: homicide, rape or other felony sexual assaults, kidnapping, assault, robbery, burglary first in which a weapon was involved, arson, weapon offenses and peace disturbance which includes terrorist threats.

**Non-Violent Offenses** - Any other act classified as criminal by the Missouri Criminal Code in 565.577 RSMo. and which apply to the general population including drug offenses.

**Status Offenses** Non-criminal violations that apply only to juveniles including truancy, runaways, beyond parental control and behavior injurious to self and others.

**Non-Offenses** - Child Abuse and neglect (victims).

## ***PART I***

### ***REFERRALS***

A referral is defined as any action involving a juvenile, which results in a determination, finding, or outcome and a written record maintained in the juvenile's name.

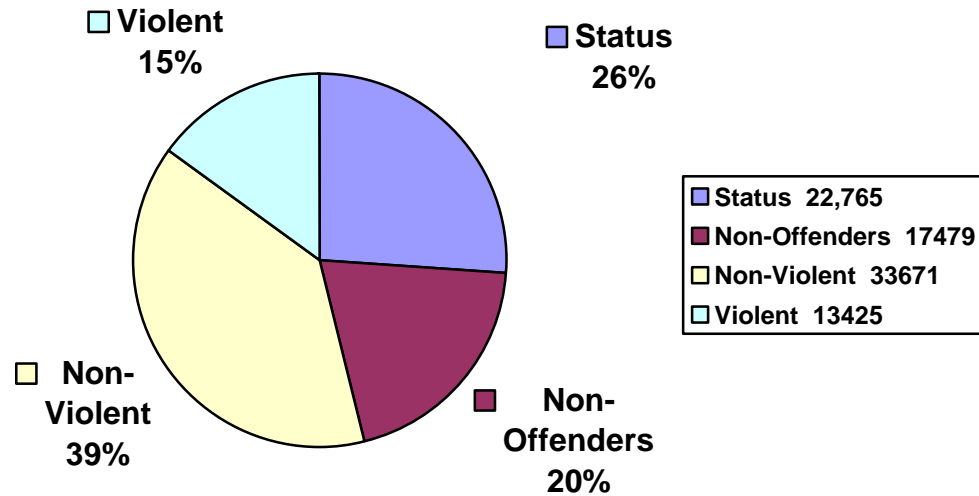
The information presented here reflects only the most serious allegation for individual referrals. Totals do not include information on other violations that may have been alleged for a youth at the time of his/her referral. For example, a juvenile might be referred for a burglary, property damage, misdemeanor theft, and curfew violation all in one referral. In this instance, the major allegation (most serious) would be burglary, with two additional law violations and a status violation noted but not counted as additional referrals. Also, please note that the data presented represents offense referrals to the juvenile court and not necessarily the number of separate individuals referred to the court. The actual number of individual youth referred to the court system will be less than the total number of referrals as some youth will be referred several times over the course of a year.

Referrals have generally been broken into four major categories - Violent Offenses, Non-Violent Offenses, Status Offenses and Non-Offenses (child abuse and neglect) for most data analysis.

## MISSOURI JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS 2001

Figure 1

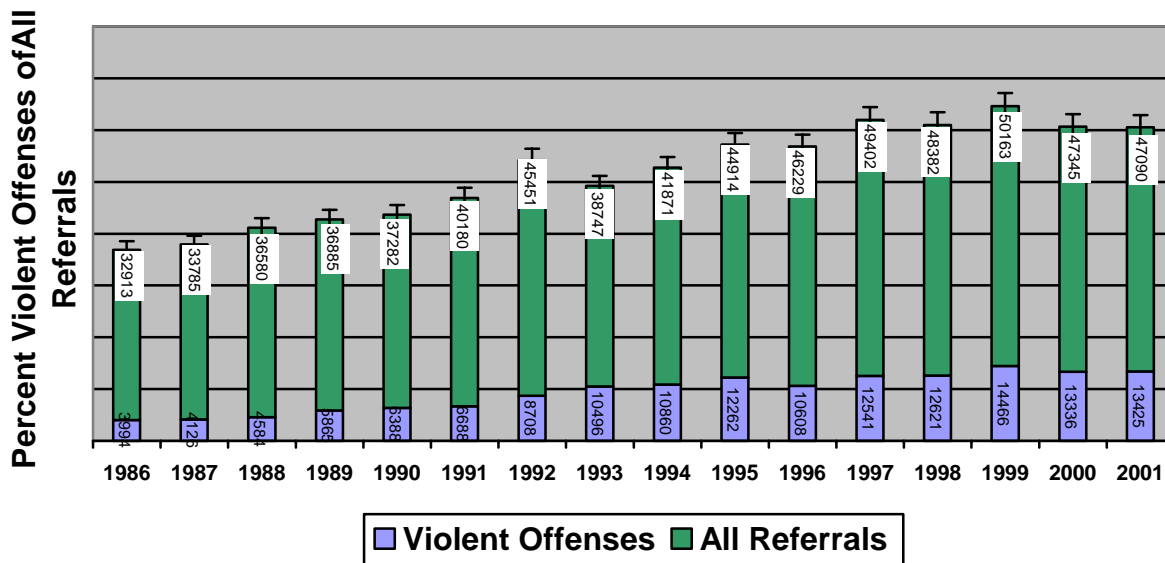
Total Referrals: 87,340



- Fifty-three and nine-ten's percent of all referrals involved an allegation of violation of Missouri's criminal code.
- Non-violent offenses represent the single largest offense category (38.5%) for all referrals to the juvenile court.
- Violent offenses represented only 15.3% of all referrals to juvenile courts in 2001 and 28.5% of referrals for law violations.
- Child abuse and neglect accounts for 17.6% of all the referrals made to juvenile courts.
- The total number of referrals to juvenile courts for law violations decreased by 6% from 1999 to 2001.
- Violent offense referrals accounted for 28.5% of all law violations in 2001 which represents an increase of 1/2% above their representation of all law violations in 1999.

## JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS Law Violations 1986-2001

Figure 1a



### TRENDS

- The total number of referrals for all criminal, status and abuse/neglect categories decreased by 1% since 1999.
- Violent offenses decreased by 1041 referrals representing a -.01% increase in three years.
- Non-violent offenses have decreased by -.05% since 1999.
- Status offense referrals experienced a .3% decrease since 1999.
- Referrals to juvenile courts for abuse/neglect (non-offenders) have increased approx 3% 1999 to 2001.

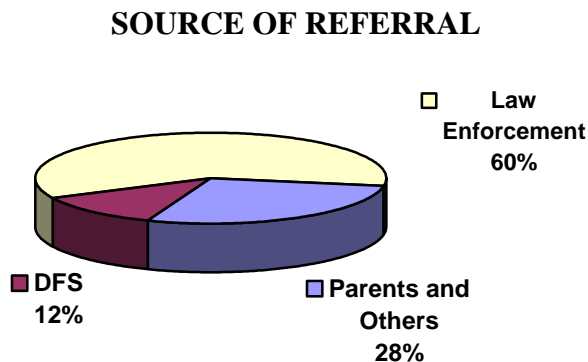
### 1999-2001

- Law enforcement agencies accounted for 60% of all referrals to juvenile courts in 2001.
- The Missouri Division of Family Services and schools accounted for the next highest percentage of referrals for youth (12%) each with the majority of those being abuse/neglect victims.
- All other referral sources accounted for 28% of the referrals made in 2001.

## TRENDS

- Law enforcement agencies continue to remain the primary source of referrals to juvenile courts with their percentage decreasing over 5% since 1999.
- Other referrals sources have remained fairly constant since 1999 with the Division of Family Services showing a slight increase of 3%.

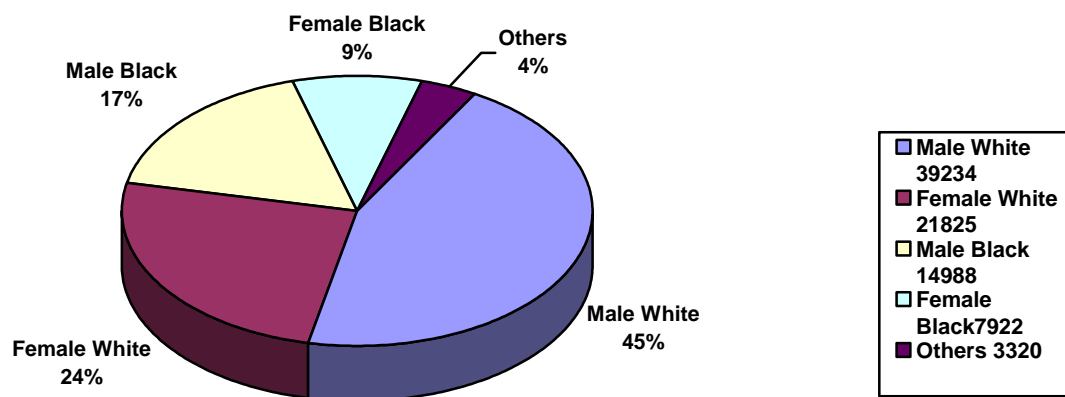
**Figure 2**



## **DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER & RACE AMONG ALL REFERRALS**

**Total Referrals: 87,340**

**Figure 3**



## 2001

- White youth account for the majority of referrals to the juvenile court (69%). White males, in particular, represent 44% of all referrals in 2001.

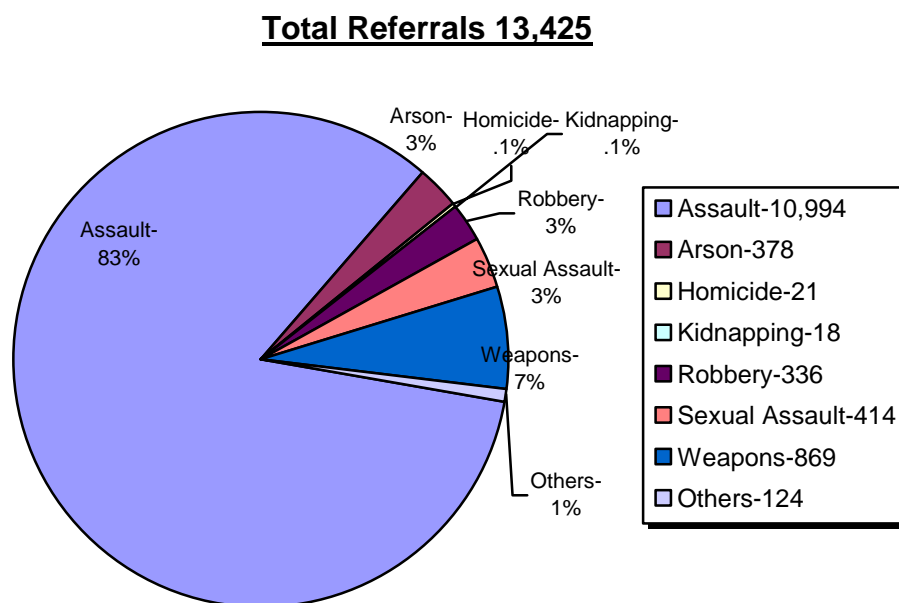
- White females represent 24% of the referrals to juvenile court as opposed to only 9% for black females.
- Black females represent less than one out of every ten referrals (9%).
- Other minority youth account for 4% of the referral population.

### **TRENDS**

- During the past three years (1999-2001), males have accounted for 64% to 66% of all referrals to juvenile courts in comparison to 33% to 35% for females.
- Percentage differences have remained only slight for the different races since 1999. The percentage of blacks referred to juvenile court has decreased from 26.7% to 26.2% over the last three years. Other minority groups' referrals have increased by 1.8% for this same period. Caucasians continue to represent the majority of all referrals to juvenile courts.

### **TYPE OF VIOLENT OFFENSES COMMITTED 2001**

**Figure 4**



## 2001

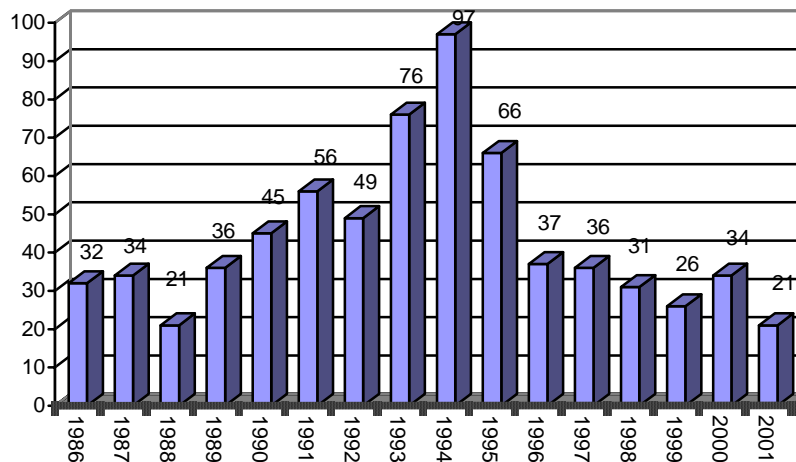
- Assault is the most frequently occurring violent offense (81.89%).
- Weapons offenses represent the second most frequently occurring category at 6.4% while weapon-related offenses such as robbery account for 2.5%.
- Homicide accounted for only .1% of all violent offenses committed by juveniles in Missouri for 2001 and kidnapping represents only .1% of all violent offenses.

## TRENDS

- The number of violent offense referrals has decreased from 14,466 in 1999 to 13,425 in 2001.
- The percentage of the total of all referrals that were for violent offenses has increased 1% since 1999.

### JUVENILE PERPETRATED HOMICIDES 2001

Figure 4a



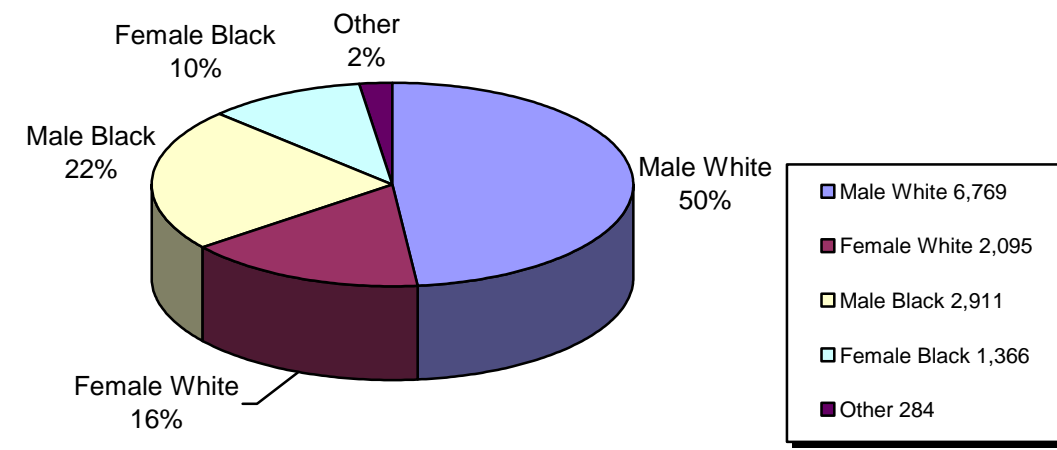
## 1999-2001

- Homicides account for only a small proportion of violent referrals to juvenile courts; therefore, it is difficult to determine the significance of the fluctuations in homicides from year to year.
- Since 1999, there has been an average of 21 referrals per year for homicides involving juveniles. This is considerably less than the average of 35 homicides per year experienced from 1996 to 1999, and considerably less than the 97 referrals in 1994.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER & RACE AMONG REFERRALS FOR VIOLENCE 2001**

**Total Referrals: 13,425**

**Figure 5**



## 2001

- Males were referred for violent offenses at a rate of just under 3 times that of females.
- White youth accounted for a majority of the referrals for violence in 2001 (66%) while black youth represented 31%, three times their percentage of the population.
- White males accounted for 50% of the referrals for violence in 2001, whereas black males accounted for 21%. Similarly, white females represented 16% of the referrals for violence, whereas black females accounted for 10%.



## TRENDS

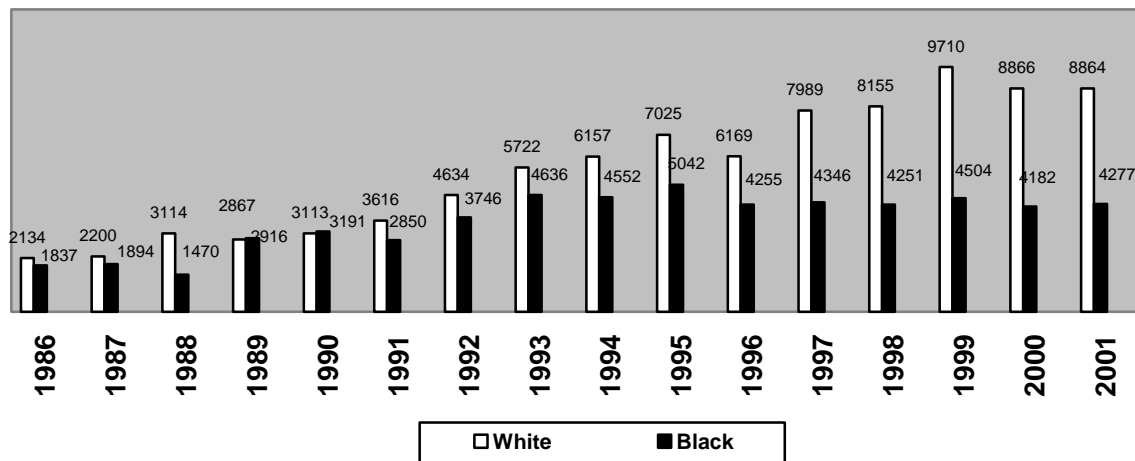
- Since 1999 the total number of referrals for violence committed by white males has decreased .09% and decreased 1.08% for black male youth.
- Violent offense referrals for other non-white groups has increased 12.6% since 1999.

### JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS

#### Violent Offenses

1999-2001

Figure 5a



## 1999-2001

- Since 1999, there has been a slight decrease in the number of violent offense referrals to juvenile courts of white youth and of black youth.
- From 1999 to 2001 referrals for violence decreased 5.3% for black youth and decreased 8.7% for whites.

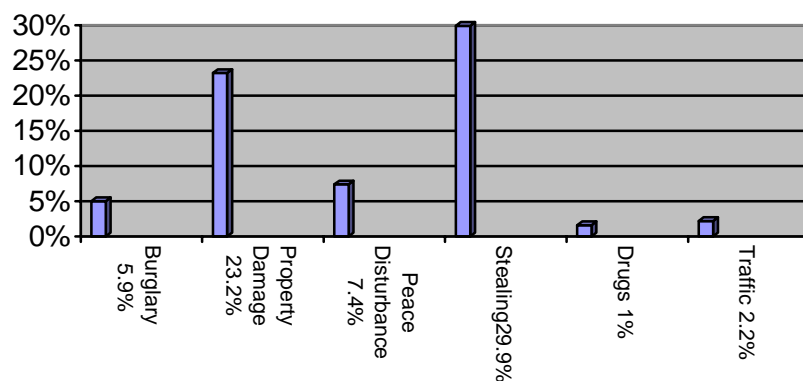
## 2001

- Stealing was the most frequently indicated crime for those youth referred for non-violent offenses 10,086 (29.9%).
- While drug and alcohol addictions remain a public concern in Missouri, only 11% of all referrals for non-violent offenses involved drugs or alcohol. Drug and alcohol referrals account for 4.2% of all juvenile court referrals.

### **Types of Non-Violent Referrals 2001**

**Total Referrals: 33,671**

**Figure 6**



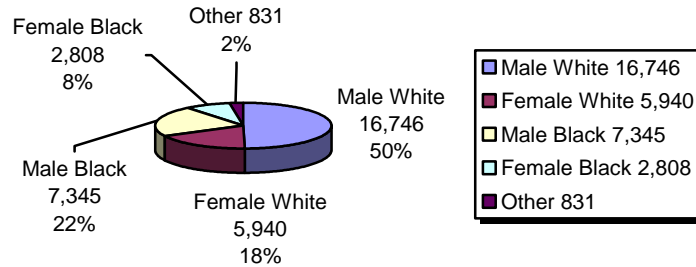
## TRENDS

- Referrals for non-violent offenses decreased by .5% from 1999.
- The total number of referrals for stealing decreased by 1% since 1999.

# **DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER & RACE AMONG NON-VIOLENT REFERRALS 2001**

**Total Referrals: 33,671**

**Figure 7**



## **2001**

- White males account for half of all referrals to the juvenile court for non-violent referrals (50%).
- White females account for twice as many non-violent referrals as black females (17.6% to 8.3% respectively), yet females of both races account for only 25.9% of the total number of referrals for non-violent offenses.
- Overall, males account for 70% of all referrals for non-violent offenses.

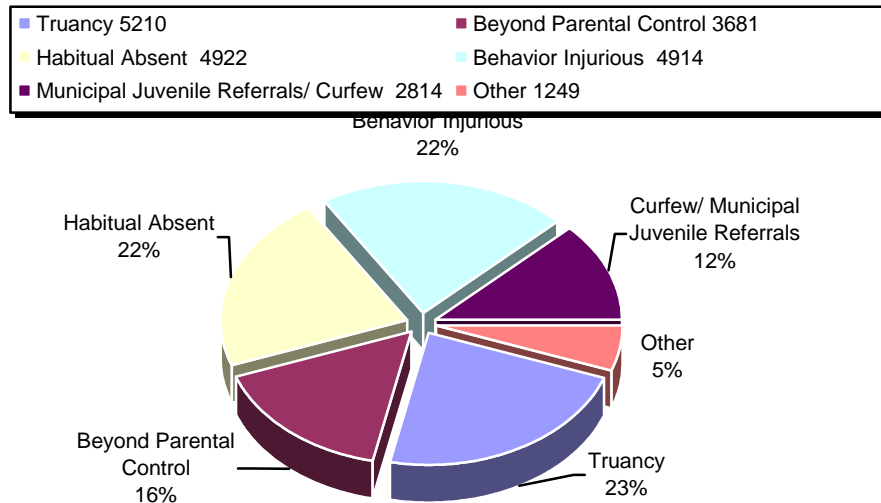
## **TRENDS**

- The number of referrals for non-violent offenses for whites decreased by 8% since 1999 and remained the same for black youth.
- Referrals for nonviolent offenses for females have decreased .17% and males decreased 7.52%.

## TYPE OF STATUS OFFENSES 2001

**Figure 8**

**Total Referrals: 22,791**



### 2001

- Truancy represents 23% of all status referrals and is the most frequently occurring offense.
- Habitually Absent (Runaways) and Injurious Behavior referrals category represent 22%, each with Beyond Parental Control following at 16%.

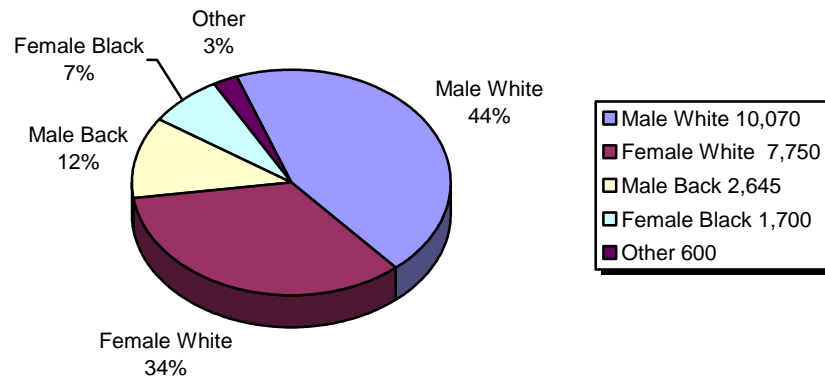
### TRENDS

- Status offense referrals stayed relatively the same since 1999.
- Since 1999, the number of status offense referrals for running away has decreased 6%, the number of truancy offenses has increased to 23% and beyond parental control has decreased slightly.

## DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER & RACE AMONG REFERRALS FOR STATUS OFFENSES 2001

**Figure 9**

**Total Referrals: 22,765**



### 2001

- Status offenses have greater gender parity than any other offense category (57% male and 42.6% female).
- The rate for white males (44.2%) with regard to status offending is almost three times that of black males (11.6%). White females (34%) were referred to juvenile court over four times more frequently in 2001 for status offending than black females (7.4%).
- Other minority youth, excluding blacks, represent just 2.6% of all referrals for status offenses.
- Black youth are represented in status offense categories in percentages that are more compatible to their percentage of the population.

### TRENDS

- Overall, since 1999 status offense referrals have decreased by 7.3%.

**Table 1**  
**CHARACTERISTICS OF REFERRALS BY TYPE**

**1999 to 2001**

- During 2001, males represented 62.8% of all referrals to juvenile courts. The overwhelming majority of referrals for violent (73%) and non-violent violations (73%) involved male youth. Among status offense referrals, 42.6% were female. Females accounted for a small majority 50.9% of abuse/neglect referrals.
- The greater representation of males among law violation referrals generally parallels the distribution of referrals for 1999 and 2000 with a male reduction in 2001.
- White youth have maintained their majority in the representation of all referrals to juvenile courts since 1999. Black youth have remained fairly consistent in their representation for all offense categories from 1999 to 2001. Black youth represented 23.9% of all abuse/neglect referrals to juvenile courts in 2001 and 27.8% of the referrals of abuse and neglect in 1999.
- Eighty-two percent of all referrals to juvenile courts in 2001 involved children 11 years of age or older. Eleven to 15 year olds account for 63% of all violent referrals, 56% of non-violent referrals, and 66% of status offenses. Youth under the age of six represent the largest category of children susceptible to abuse/neglect referrals. As children age, their chances for abuse/neglect referrals decrease.
- The distribution among referrals by age remained fairly consistent for the period of 1999 to 2001 with the exception of under 6 years of age which increased about 20%.

**2001**  
**TOTAL REFERRALS 87,340**

	VIOLENT		NON-VIOLENT		STATUS OFFENDER		ABUSE & NEGLECT		TOTALS	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>SEX</b>										
Male	9,901	74%	24,700	73%	13051	57%	8572	49%	56,224	64%
Female	3,524	20%	8,970	27%	9713	43%	8907	51%	31,114	36%
<b>RACE</b>										
White	8,864	66%	22,687	68%	17828	79%	11684	67%	61,055	70%
Black	4,277	32%	10,153	30%	4345	19%	4190	23%	22,965	26%
Other	284	2%	831	2%	600	2%	1605	10%	3,320	4%
<b>AGE</b>										
Under 6	122	<.1%	249	<.1%	251	2%	6527	37%	7,149	8%
6 to 10	1,117	8%	1,617	5%	1355	6%	4767	27%	8,856	10%
11 to 15	8,681	65%	19,201	57%	8269	67%	4832	28%	47,983	55%
16 & Over	3,499	26%	12,588	37%	5946	26%	1345	8%	23,378	27%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>										
None	7,456	55%	17,744	53%	13425	59%	15816	90%	54,441	62%
1 to 2	3,075	23%	7,576	22%	5260	23%	1155	7%	17,069	20%
3 or More	2,894	22%	8,351	25%	4080	18%	508	3%	15,833	18%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,425</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>33,671</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22,765</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17,479</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>87,340</b>	<b>100%</b>

**2000**  
**TOTAL REFERRALS 84,910**

	VIOLENT		NON-VIOLENT		STATUS OFFENDER		ABUSE & NEGLECT		TOTALS	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>SEX</b>										
Male	9,860	74%	25,189	74%	13,249	58%	7,204	49%	55,502	65%
Female	3,426	26%	8,819	26%	9,479	42%	7,632	51%	29,356	35%
<b>RACE</b>										
White	8,866	66%	23,283	69%	943	79%	9,704	65%	59,796	71%
Black	4,182	31%	9,988	29%	4,154	18%	4,125	28%	22,449	26%
Other	288	29%	738	2%	637	3%	1,008	7%	2,665	3%
<b>AGE</b>										
Under 6	119	1%	272	1%	220	1%	5,670	38%	6,287	7%
6 to 10	1,062	8%	1,785	5%	1,219	5%	4,269	29%	8,335	10%
11 to 15	8,666	65%	19,701	58%	15,248	67%	898	26%	44,513	56%
16 & Over	3,483	26%	12,244	36%	6,035	27%	992	7%	22,754	27%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>										
None	7,190	54%	18,342	54%	13,235	58%	13,456	91%	52,203	61%
1 to 2	3,237	24%	7,510	22%	5,219	23%	963	6%	16,929	20%
3 or More	2,929	22%	8,157	24%	4,274	19%	418	3%	15,778	19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,356</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>34,009</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22,728</b>		<b>14,837</b>		<b>84,9310</b>	

**1999**  
**TOTAL REFERRALS 88,424**

	VIOLENT		NON-VIOLENT		STATUS OFFENDER		ABUSE & NEGLECT		TOTALS	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>SEX</b>										
Male	10,843	75%	2,671	75%	14,120	57%	6,699	49%	58,373	66%
Female	3,623	25%	8,986	25%	10,450	53%	6,992	51%	30,051	34%
<b>RACE</b>										
White	9,710	67%	24,861	70%	18,147	77%	9,024	66%	62,409	71%
Black	4,504	31%	10,158	28%	5,157	21%	3,817	28%	23,636	27%
Other	252	2%	678	2%	595	2%	850	6%	2,375	3%
<b>AGE</b>										
Under 6	133	1%	303	1%	270	1%	5,218	38%	5,924	6%
6 to 10	1,205	8%	1,670	5%	1,183	5%	3,470	29%	80,280	10%
11 to 15	9,493	66%	20,768	58%	16,541	67%	3,513	26%	50,315	57%
16 & Over	3,632	25%	12,944	36%	6,573	27%	986	7%	24,135	27%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>										
None	7,796	54%	19,106	53%	14,304	58%	12,382	90%	53,588	60%
1 to 2	3,544	24%	8,122	23%	5,694	23%	901	7%	18,261	21%
3 or More	3,126	22%	8,469	24%	4,572	19%	408	3%	16,575	19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,466</b>		<b>35,697</b>		<b>24,570</b>		<b>13,691</b>		<b>88,424</b>	<b>100%</b>

## SUMMARY

Since 1999, referrals to Missouri's juvenile courts have decreased by 1.5%. Assault continues to account for the over 80% of all violent offenses. Homicide represents only a small proportion (.19%) of all violent referrals. The number of juvenile referrals for homicides have decrease since 1999.

Differences in referral rates for white and black youth continue to be reflected in various categories. White youth continue to comprise the majority of referrals to juvenile courts (69%). Black youth have decreased their percentage for all referrals from 27% to 26% since 1999 and increased their percentage for violent offense referrals from 27% in 1999 to 32% in 2001. However, considering their proportion of Missouri's total youth population, they continue to be over represented both in referrals for violence and referrals to juvenile courts overall.

Males continue to dominate referrals to juvenile courts in Missouri. Males accounted for 65% all referrals to juvenile courts in 2001 and this has remained relatively constant since 1999. Although violent offending continues to be a male dominated activity, females have been increasing their numbers for non-violent offense. While the rate of non-violent referrals for males has decreased by 2%. Females have been increasing their numbers for non-violent referrals by 2% since 1999.

The age distribution over the last three years continues to suggest that children eleven years of age and older continue to account for the majority of referrals to juvenile courts for law violations and status offenses. Those children under the age of six, however, represent the largest category accounting for abuse and neglect referrals. To this end, resources directed at delinquency prevention should be directed at those children older than eleven and abuse/neglect prevention should assist those children younger than six.



## **PART II**

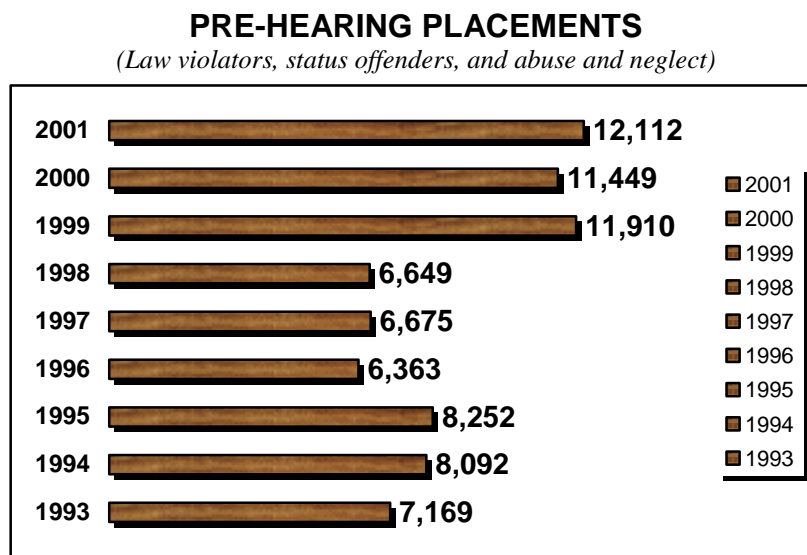
### **PRE-HEARING PLACEMENTS**

Missouri law and Supreme Court Rule allow the juvenile court to take physical custody of a child prior to a court hearing or determination of the case. The juvenile officer may authorize detention for up to twenty-four hours. Detention beyond twenty-four hours requires a court order from the judge of the juvenile court pursuant to Missouri Revised Statutes section 211.141.3. If detention is ordered by the court for an alleged law violation a detention hearing must be held within seventy-two hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays). If the juvenile is in custody for a status offense, a detention hearing must be held the following day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays). Pursuant to Missouri Supreme Court Rules, if a child is taken into protective custody for allegations of abuse and/or neglect, any party may request that the Court hold a hearing to determine if probable cause exists to continue to hold the child in protective custody. Post disposition custody in a detention facility is classified as an out-of-home placement and is presented in Part III.

This part of the analysis generally examines pre-hearing placements by facility type. The data presented has been collapsed into two categories: secure detention and non-secure pre-hearing placement. Missouri Statute defines secure detention as, any public or private residential facility used for the temporary placement of *“any child if such facility included construction fixtures designed to physically restrict the movements and activities of children held in the lawful custody of such facility”* Section 211.063 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. The Missouri Department of Public Safety maintains a list of all facilities and classifies them as secure or non-secure for the purpose of determining compliance with state laws and federal regulations regarding the placement of juveniles.

Non-secure custody would include placements in any other court approved placement including: non-secure juvenile detention facilities; court operated residential facilities; private (for-profit and not-for-profit) residential facilities and foster homes. Placement of juveniles in adult jails and detention facilities is strictly prohibited. Missouri continues to be responsible for monitoring adult facilities to assure compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

**Figure 10**



#### **2000-2001**

- During 2001, 12,112 of all the cases referred to juvenile courts were placed in a secure or non-secure facility prior to a dispositional hearing in juvenile court.
- Eighty-six percent of all youth referred to Missouri's juvenile courts in 2001 were not placed out-of-home prior to their disposition hearings.

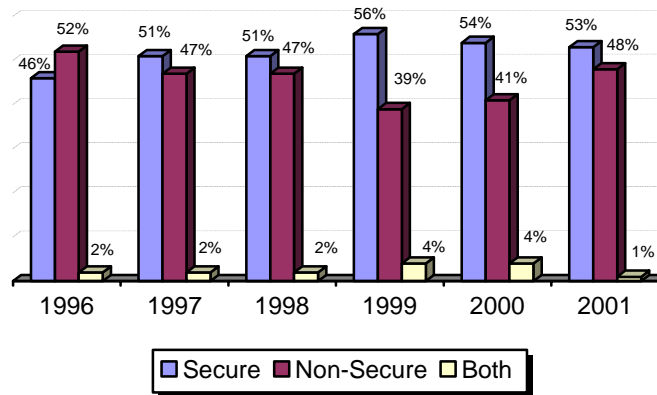
#### **TRENDS**

- The nine-year trend for pre-hearing placements shows an increase in the number of children placed out-of-home from 1993 to 2001.
- An examination of data from 1993 to 2001 reveals approximately a 7% increase in the number of pre-hearing placements.

**Figure 11**

#### **TYPE OF PRE-HEARING PLACEMENTS**

## 1999- 2001



## 1996-2001

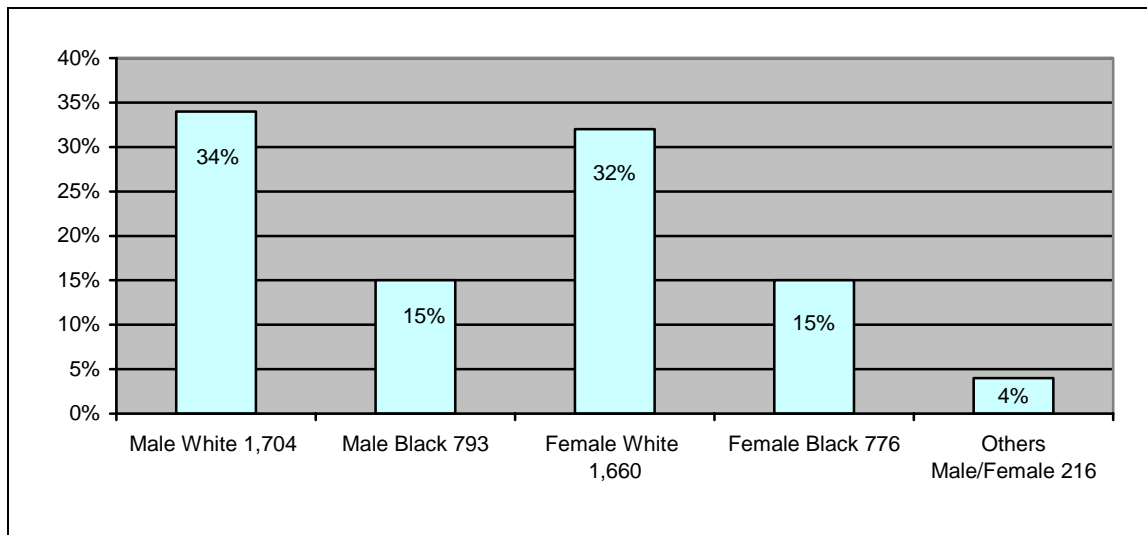
- The majority of pre-hearing placements (53%) for all referrals occurred at a secure juvenile detention facility.
- During 2001, of all youth in pre-hearing placement, 42% were placed in non-secure facilities prior to hearing. Nineteen percent of these 5,149 juveniles were referred for law violations or status offenses.
- Clearly, youth referred for law violations are more often placed in a secure court operated facility prior to hearing, whereas children referred for abuse and neglect more frequently receive pre-hearing placement in non-secure facilities.

## TRENDS

- Placements in secure facilities decreased and placements in non-secure facilities increased from 1999 to 2001.
- Missouri remained in full compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act requiring that juveniles be barred from placement in adult jails and lock-ups.

**Figure 12**

**NON-SECURE PRE-HEARING PLACEMENT RATES  
BY RACE & GENDER  
2001**



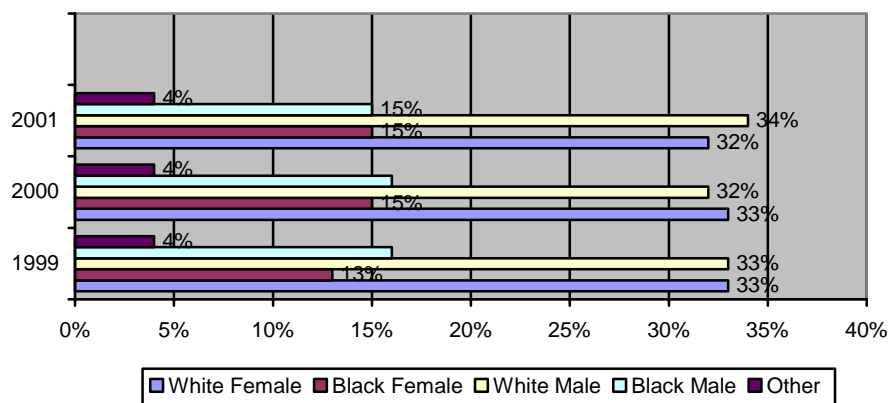
**2001**

A slight majority of those cases which received non-secure detention were white.

- White males represented 34% of those receiving non-secure placement prior to their hearings, whereas black males represented 15%. Thirty two percent of cases placed in non-secure detention prior to hearing were white females, whereas 15% of the females receiving non-secure detention were black.
- Four percent of all youth placed in non-secure detention prior to hearing were categorized as “other” males and females.

**Figure 12a**

**NON-SECURE PRE-HEARING PLACEMENT RATES  
BY RACE & GENDER  
1999-2001**

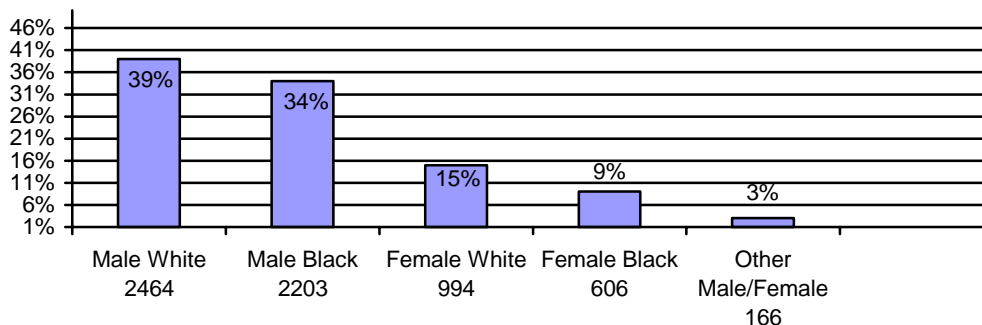


**TRENDS**

- Non-secure pre-hearing placement rates have shown a steady increase for males during the period of 1999-2001
- Black females represented in the non-secure pre-hearing placement rates have shown an increase since 1999.

**SECURE  
PRE-HEARING PLACEMENT RATES  
BY RACE & GENDER  
2001**

**Figure 13**



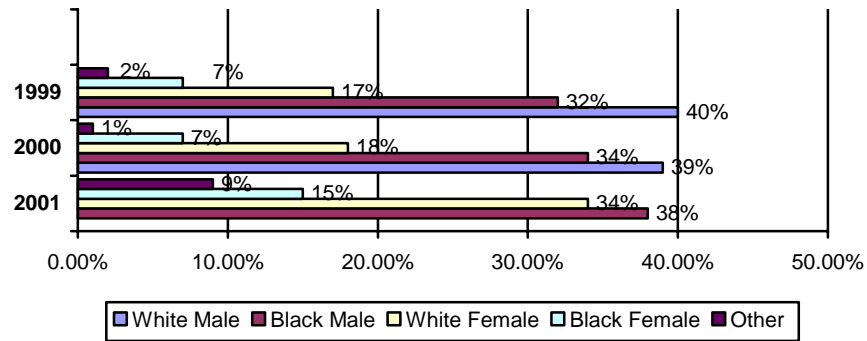
- Of those juveniles receiving pre-hearing secure detention, males had a significantly higher rate of secure detention than females
- Of those 76% of males placed, 35% of the males detained were black whereas 41% were white.
- Only 35% of those detained prior to hearing in 1998 were female. Of those 1,323 females detained, the majority of them were white (27%), whereas only 8% were black.

**TRENDS**

1. Since 1999, females have continued to receive secure confinement at much lower rates than males.

# **SECURE PRE-HEARING DETENTION PLACEMENT RATES BY RACE & GENDER 1999-2001**

**Figure 13a**

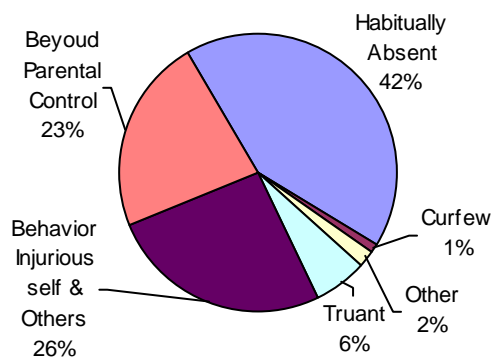


## **DETENTION BY STATUS VIOLATION 2001**

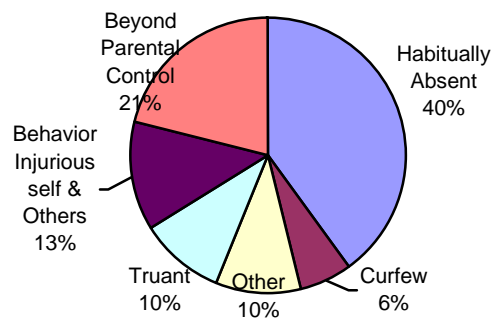
**Figure 14**

**Total Referrals: 1,694**

**NON-SECURE: 706 (40%)**



**SECURE: 988 (60%)**



## **2001**

- Secure detention (58%) is used more frequently for status violators than non-secure alternatives (42%).
- In both non-secure and secure pre-hearing placement categories, youth habitually absent from home-received placement more often than any other status offense category.

## **TRENDS**

- Runaways continued to account for the largest single status referral category in secure detention from 1999 to 2001.

# ***PART III*** ***DISPOSITIONS***

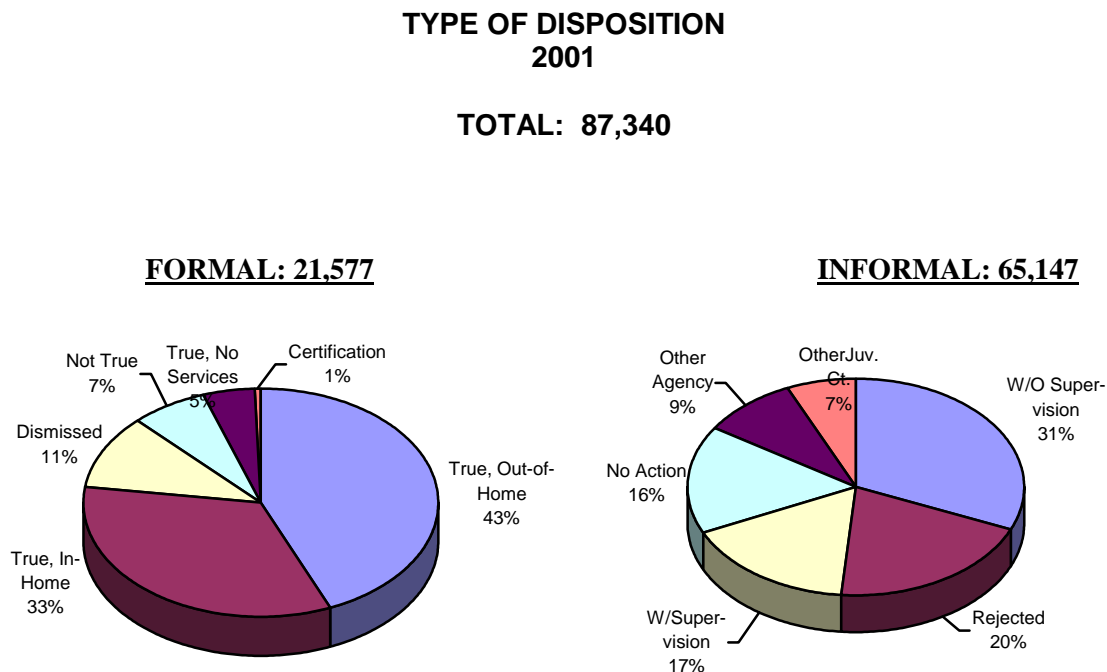
The juvenile courts in Missouri have several dispositional options available to them. The juvenile officer can file a petition and proceed with a court hearing or, with the consent of the child and the parent, make such informal adjustment as is practicable without a petition (Section 211.081 Missouri Revised Statutes). The following is a listing and brief description (where necessary) of the outcomes captured by the Missouri Statewide Juvenile Information System:

1. Allegation found true (with petition) and juvenile receives out-of-home placement. The juvenile receives a court disposition with custody transfer to another agency or individual. Placement can range from a relative to commitment to the Division of Youth Services.
2. Allegation found true (with petition) and juvenile receives in-home services.
3. Allegation found true (with petition) and juvenile receives no services.
4. Allegation is found not true (with petition).
5. Sustain motion to dismiss (with petition): The court finds that a motion to dismiss should be sustained and the case is closed.
6. Sustain motion to dismiss for certification (with petition): Juvenile court jurisdiction is waived and the case is transferred to criminal (adult) court for prosecution under General Law.
7. Informal adjustment without supervision: No ongoing supervision by deputy juvenile officer.



8. Informal adjustment with supervision.
9. Informal adjustment, no action: A pending intake situation where no petition is filed and no action is taken other than the collection of information. An example is truancy letters.
10. Transfer to another juvenile court.
11. Transfer to another agency (public or private).
12. Referral rejected.

**Figure 15**



- In 2001 over three-fourths (75%) of all juvenile referrals were handled informally.
- Of the 65,147 cases handled informally, only 16.6% (10,844) received informal supervision services. The remaining 85% of juvenile referrals informally handled were either adjusted without supervision (31%), adjusted with no action (16%), transferred (15.7%) or the referral was rejected (20%).
- Petitions were sustained for 81.9% of the 21,577 referrals for which formal processing occurred. Less than one percent of the cases were dismissed for certification. Additionally, 3.8% of the petitions filed with the juvenile court were found untrue and another 10.5% are dismissed by motion.

- Following adjudication, youths received in-home services (33.6%) as well as out-of-home placements (33.6%) and 588 children (4.7%) received no services at all.

### PERCENT OF REFERRALS PROCESSED FORMALLY BY TYPE OF CASE 2001

- Among the 2,494 cases referred to juvenile courts for violence in 2001. Males (80%) were adjudicated at a rate of almost four times that of females (20%) for violent offenses.
- In 2001, 6,819 non-violent referrals with petitions were filed in juvenile courts. Again, males (82%) were adjudicated at a rate almost four times that of females (18%).
- Among status offenses processed formally males (62%) were adjudicated more frequently than females (38%).
- For all law violations and status offenses petitioned to juvenile courts, violent referrals had the lowest rate of adjudication at 21%, whereas non-violent referrals received the highest adjudication rate at 60% in 2001.

### 2001

	VIOLENT 2,494		NON- VIOLENT 6,819		STATUS 2,804	
	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS
<b>SEX</b>						
MALE	1988	80%	5580	82%	1733	62%
FEMALE	506	20%	1239	18%	1071	38%
<b>AGE</b>						
UNDER 6	8	>.01%	52		8	>.01%
6-10	40	>.01%	84	1%	66	2%
11-15	1620	65%	3897	57%	1901	68%
16 & OVER	824	33%	2786	40%	829	30%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>						
NONE	840	34%	1800	27%	792	28%
1 OR 2	635	25%	1599	23%	808	29%
3 OR MORE	1019	41%	3420	50%	1204	43%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2494</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6819</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2804</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2000

	VIOLENT 2,589		NON- VIOLENT 6,535		STATUS 2,704	
	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS
<b>SEX</b>						
MALE	2044	79%	5413	83%	1662	61%
FEMALE	545	21%	1122	17%	1042	39%
<b>AGE</b>						
UNDER 6	13	>.01%	64	1%	10	1%
6-10	46	2%	121	2%	60	2%
11-15	1679	65%	3686	56%	1852	68%
16&OVER	848	33%	2663	40%	781	29%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>						
NONE	895	34%	1815	28%	827	30%
1 OR 2	664	26%	1611	25%	747	28%
3 OR MORE	1030	40%	3109	47%	1130	42%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2589</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6535</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2704</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 1999

	VIOLENT 2,607		NON- VIOLENT 6,394		STATUS 2,623	
	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS	# OF PETITIONS	% OF ALL PETITIONS
<b>SEX</b>						
MALE	2068	80%	523	82%	1565	60%
FEMALE	539	20%	1141	18%	1058	40%
<b>AGE</b>						
UNDER 6	7	>.01%	58	10%	17	>.01%
6-10	62	2%	102	2%	59	2%
11-15	1715	65%	3683	58%	1807	69%
16&OVER	823	32%	2550	40%	740	28%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>						
NONE	859	33%	1747	28%	837	32%
1 OR 2	693	27%	1626	25%	747	28%
3 OR MORE	1055	40%	3021	47%	1039	40%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2607</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6394</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2623</b>	<b>100%</b>

## PERCENT OF REFERRALS PROCESSED INFORMALLY BY TYPE OF CASE 2001

### 2001

- In 2001, 65.5% of all juvenile referrals were handled informally. When type of referral is compared, the rate of informal handling is higher among nonviolent offense referrals (46.5%) than any other offense category.
- With regard to status offenses, females (14.9%) had a lesser rate of informal adjustments than males (19.5%).
- Seventy-nine percent of non-violent offense referrals received informal adjustments in 2001. Among non-violent referrals, males (71%) once again received informal adjustments at a higher rate than females (29%).
- Among referrals for violence, 83% received some type of informal handling of those 72% were males and 28% were females.

### 2001

	VIOLENT 19,888		NON-VIOLENT 27,282		STATUS 19,884	
	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS
<b>SEX</b>						
MALE	7875	72%	18960	71%	11172	56%
FEMALE	3013	28%	7684	29%	8567	44%
<b>AGE</b>						
UNDER 6	111	>.01%	194	1%	240	1%
6-10	1073	10%	1527	6%	127	6%
11-15	7037	65%	15211	57%	1316	67%
16 & OVER	2658	24%	9703	36%	5036	26%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>						
NONE	6596	61%	15836	60%	12497	64%
1 OR 2	2423	22%	5920	22%	4400	22%
3 OR MORE	1869	17%	4888	18%	2842	14%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10888</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26644</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19739</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2000

	VIOLENT 10,665		NON-VIOLENT 27,287		STATUS 19,884	
	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS
<b>SEX</b>						
MALE	7750	73%	19640	72%	11504	58%
FEMALE	2915	27%	7647	28%	8380	42%
<b>AGE</b>						
UNDER 6	105	1%	206	1%	210	1%
6-10	1006	9%	1645	6%	1150	6%
11-15	6938	65%	15933	59%	13307	67%
16&OVER	2613	25%	9497	34%	5212	26%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>						
NONE	6247	59%	16440	60%	12335	62%
1 OR 2	2555	24%	5870	22%	4446	22%
3 OR MORE	1863	17%	4978	18%	3103	16%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10665</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27288</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19884</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 2000

	VIOLENT 1,741		NON-VIOLENT 28,948		STATUS 21,800	
	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	# OF INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS	% OF ALL REFERRALS RECEIVING INFORMAL ADJUSTMENTS
<b>SEX</b>						
MALE	8681	74%	21154	73%	12469	57%
FEMALE	3060	26%	7744	27%	9331	43%
<b>AGE</b>						
UNDER 6	126	1%	243	1%	252	1%
6-10	1142	10%	1562	5%	1122	5%
11-15	7708	66%	16960	59%	14641	67%
16&OVER	2752	23%	10172	35%	5782	27%
<b>PRIOR REFERRALS</b>						
NONE	6893	59%	17219	60%	13392	61%
1 OR 2	2816	24%	6413	22%	4922	23%
3 OR MORE	2032	17%	5316	18%	3486	16%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11741</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>28948</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>21800</b>	<b>100%</b>

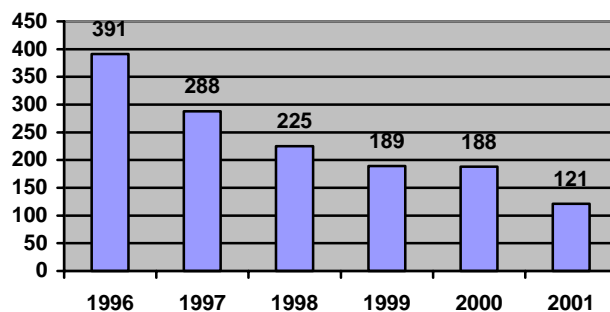
## COMMITMENTS TO DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES BY CIRCUIT 2001

CIRCUIT	NUMBER COMMITTED	% OF TOTAL	CIRCUIT	NUMBER COMMITTED	% OF TOTAL
1	1	0.0680%	24	43	2.9490%
2	2	0.1370%	25	23	1.5770%
3	6	0.4110%	26	65	4.4580%
4	12	0.8230%	27	8	0.5480%
5	20	1.3710%	28	87	5.9670%
6	15	1.0280%	29	39	2.6740%
7	123	8.4360%	30	0	0.0000%
8	13	0.8910%	31	67	4.5950%
9	6	0.4110%	32	35	2.4000%
10	19	1.3030%	33	27	1.8510%
11	43	2.9490%	34	19	1.3030%
12	29	1.9890%	35	4	0.2740%
13	59	4.0460%	36	2	0.1370%
14	10	0.6850%	37	1	0.0680%
15	14	0.9600%	38	27	1.8510%
16	132	9.0530%	39	7	0.4800%
17	13	0.8910%	40	20	1.3710%
18	23	1.5770%	41	11	0.7540%
19	5	0.3420%	42	14	0.9600%
20	19	1.3030%	43	11	0.7540%
21	97	6.6520%	44	5	0.3420%
22	193	13.0370%	45	42	2.8800%
23	42	2.8800%	TOTAL	1453	99.4360%

- In 1999 2,270 youth were committed to the Division of Youth Services and 1459 in 2000. In 2001 the number stayed close to the 2000 number, with 1453 commitments.

**Figure 16**

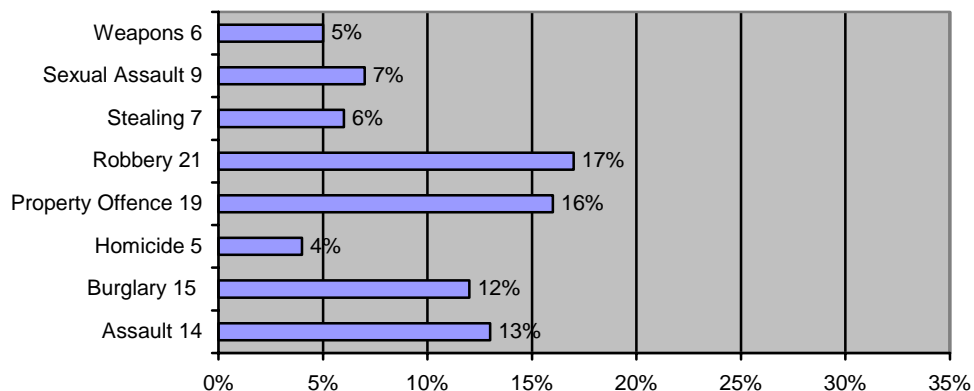
**JUVENILES WAIVED FOR  
ADULT PROSECUTION  
1996-2001**



**Figure 17**

**WAIVERS BY OFFENSE TYPE  
2001**

**Number of Referrals**



- In 2001, juvenile court jurisdiction was waived to criminal court for 121 youths. This continues a trend of decreased use of certification for juveniles in Missouri.
- The allegations involved in cases waived to criminal court included a wide variety of felony offenses. The most commonly alleged offense for which waiver occurred was robbery (21%) stealing, assault or robberies were alleged in 32% of the cases waived to criminal court. Property damage represents 19% of all cases sent to criminal court, and homicide account for only 5% of the certifications to adult jurisdiction.

**JUVENILES BROUGHT INTO LAW ENFORCEMENT FACILITIES IN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 2000 TO  
DECEMBER 2002**

			Sex			6-monthly Total for Each Race	
			Male	Female	Unknown		
Race	Jan-Jun 00	African-American	184	129		313	
		Caucasian	309	128		437	
		Hispanic		1	1	2	
		Oriental				0	
		Others				0	
		Unknown	20	10	98	128	
			Jul-Dec 00	African-American	175	102	
Caucasian	254			69		323	
Hispanic	3			1		4	
Oriental				2		2	
Others	1					1	
Unknown	28			12	9	49	
	Total for Year 2000 for Each Sex			974	454	108	
	Jan-Jun 01	African-American	139	124		263	
		Caucasian	316	113		429	
		Hispanic	7	2		9	
		Oriental	1			1	
		Others		1		1	
		Unknown	74	31	3	108	
			Jul-Dec 01	African-American	169	124	3
Caucasian	220			73	5	298	
Hispanic				3		3	
Asian	1					1	
Others						0	
Unknown	16					16	
	Total for Year 2001 for Each Sex			943	471	11	
	Jan-Jun 02	African-American	165	100	1	266	
		Caucasian	283	88		371	
		Hispanic	1			1	
		Oriental	1			1	
		Others	1			1	
		Unknown	17	3	22	42	
			Jul-Dec 02	African-American	156	71	2
Caucasian	255			85	3	343	
Hispanic	4			1		5	
Oriental						0	
Others	2					2	
Unknown	58			7		65	
	Total for Year 2002 for Each Sex			943	355	28	



<b>Yearly Total for Each Race</b>		
Year 2000	African-American	590
	Caucasian	760
	Hispanic	6
	Oriental	2
	Others	1
	Unknown	177
Year 2001	African-American	559
	Caucasian	727
	Hispanic	12
	Oriental	2
	Others	1
	Unknown	124
Year 2002	African-American	495
	Caucasian	714
	Hispanic	6
	Oriental	1
	Others	3
	Unknown	107

## **Extent of Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC)**

In May 2001, through challenge grant funds, we completed Missouri's Phase I Index Matrixes based on data from 1999. Recently we finished compiling the numbers from 2000. Our intent is to complete these matrixes on a yearly basis.

Missouri's population estimates for 1999 revealed that the juvenile population (ages 10 through 16) was 83% white, 14% African American, 2% Hispanic, 1% Asian Pacific and .4% Native American. The total juvenile population was estimated at 578,442 and of that number, 100,346 were minority youth. African American youth represented 80% of the minority population with 80,052 juveniles. Therefore, in Missouri, minorities represented 17% of juveniles in the general population, and yet represented 39% of the juveniles held in secure facilities. This means that the minority presence in Missouri's juvenile justice system is more than two times their representation in the general population. African American youth accounted for 97% of the minority youth confined in 1999. Statistics found DMC in 41 Missouri counties (36%) and minority overrepresentation was found at the referral stage in 19 counties (17%).

The baseline data from 1999 shows an index of 2.71 for African American youth. The data also shows that 2,329 less African American youth would have had to be detained to be proportionate. Very little changed in the 2000 statistics, giving us an index of 2.86. To be proportionate we would have needed to place 2,377 less African American youth in secure confinement.